33. (previously presented) The network manager of claim 32, wherein the price computation means determines the bandwidth price as a function of the difference between the measured mean bandwidth of the aggregated traffic flow and the mean bandwidth control limit, and of the first and second derivatives against time of said function.

34. (previously presented) The network manager of claim 32, wherein the price computation means determines the variance price as a function of the difference between the control limit and the sum of the measured variance of the aggregated traffic flow and a standard deviation corresponding to said variance, and of the first and second derivatives against time of said standard deviation.

35. (previously presented) An admission controller for admitting traffic flows to a network resource in a communications network, the controller comprising:

a traffic flow sampler for sampling a traffic flow to be admitted to the network resource to measure its mean bandwidth and variance;

means for receiving a price for bandwidth and a separate price for variance from a network manager; and

means for applying to said traffic flow the separate prices for bandwidth and variance received from the network manager as a means of controlling admission of the traffic flow to the network resource.

36. (previously presented) A computer readable medium comprising program code for configuring a network manger of a communications network, said program code comprising:

code for sampling aggregated traffic flow on a network resource to which the traffic flow is to be admitted to obtain a mean bandwidth measurement and a bandwidth variance measurement of said aggregated traffic flow;

code for determining from said mean bandwidth and variance measurements a price for bandwidth and a separate price for variance;

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code for sampling the traffic flow to be admitted to the network resource to measure its mean bandwidth and variance; and

code for applying to said traffic flow the separate prices for bandwidth and variance as a means of controlling admission of the traffic flow to the network resource.

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